

currence in different functions; its manifold character and its interpretation. This part of the work is particularly well developed and of great practical service. It tells what usually is only learned through the finer understanding and study of child life in its morbid state, and upon which depends the successful comprehension of their peculiar expressions of disease.

The chapters which follow, taking up the subjects of special examination, methods of procedure, preparation for operation, anesthetics, shock, sleep, feeding, etc., all are to the point and useful. The remainder of the book, some 600 pages, is devoted to those diseases of children which in any way might be considered surgical. The attitude of the writers is commendable in that everywhere the discovery of disease amid its vari-colored symptoms and dissembling phases is the dominant theme, their treatment in major cases is more suggestive than explicit. But this is as it should be in a work of this kind. It does not shirk detail where this might be directly the concern of the family physician. Its careful delineation of the proper treatment of orthopedic cases is excellent and concise.

It is not considered good taste to pass a book in review without dragging forth its short-comings showing its lack of progressive accuracy, picking out its typographical errors and differing with its conclusion; but in the present volume, possibly this will be pardoned because of the exceptionally good performance of the authors—in fact, we may even part with the compliment that the index and illustrations are very good. S. T. P.

Pathfinder in Medicine, by Victor Robinson. Published by Medical Review of Reviews, New York, 1912.

This addition to biographical literature consists of a series of fifteen essays, each essay devoted to a phase of historical development of the medical sciences as exemplified by the work of one man. The essays are arranged in chronological order, beginning with "Galen and Greek Medicine," passing next to "Aretaeus, the Forgotten Physician," "Paracelsus, Iconoclast of Medicine," "Servetus, the Medical Martyr," then Vesalius, Pare, Scheele and Cavendish, the chemists, John Hunter, Jenner, Laennec, Simpson, Semmelweis, Schleid and Schwann, and finally "Darwin, Saint of Science."

The author could not attempt within the limits of the work to accord each biography more than the salient facts, but with remarkable ingenuity he has managed to present much without cramming the subject matter. The method of treatment is as unusual as it is entertaining, due partly to the author's combined gift of imagination and versatility. Frequent allusions, occasional digressions and humorous sallies, always in good taste, convey a certain buoyancy to the text and hold the reader's interest. In places the author actually soars aloft in the realms of poetic fancy, imparting a delightful charm to his imagery. The introduction to the life of Servetus reads like a page from a Spanish romance. The account of Vesalius commences with some poetic reflections upon night and darkness, then:

"Alas! that some should wish the night to cover deeds that daylight must not see. Hark, why are the footsteps of that fellow as silent as his shadow? If he had the wings of the bat he could not sail more noiselessly through the air. The furred cat could learn from him the soundless tread. To the end of the town he walks, and e'en when the watchful dogs bark aloud he is as quiet as the swinging carcass of the convict that hangs moldering on the gibbet. Ah! save us, Virgin Mary, for thither is he bound. Stealthily he climbs the slippery steps and steals the corpse. (The moon looks calmly at his pale face.) Oh, ye blessed saints, protect us from his evil eye—it is the same youth

that last week robbed the charnel house and dug the dead from their graves!"

Thus by the use of high color in description and a feeling of warm human though critical sympathy with the past, Robinson has been able to lend a vividness of portrayal that imparts life to his characters. One seems to lose the compelling sense of time and live again with them.

As readers' tastes differ, it would be difficult to decide which is the best of the essays. They are all excellent. Abraham Jacobi states in the introduction that "the facts as related are absolutely correct." What unfavorable criticism might be offered would detract but little from the general worth of the book. One can read it with a sustained and alluring interest from cover to cover and feel on completing it that much information presented in an engaging and original literary style had been derived from its pages. M. S.

A Manual of Personal Hygiene. Edited by Walter L. Pyle, A. M., M. D. Published by W. B. Saunders & Co., Philadelphia & London, 1912. Fifth Edition.

While the trained man requires no such compendium as this popular little work in his library, there is a distinct and large field of usefulness for just such a clear, concise and simple reference book. In such language as is easily understood by the educated laity the rudiments of the anatomy and essential physiology of the organs discussed are set forth. Succeeding there is a fairly comprehensive discussion of the methods and procedures for the preservation of these organs at their normal efficiency. The field covered includes: The digestive apparatus; skin and appendages; vocal and respiratory apparatus; the ear; the eye; brain and nervous system. The chapter on physical exercise takes up muscle and muscle-nerve physiology and gives most of the simpler, approved forms of gymnastics and athletics. Orthopedics is the keynote of Dr. Goldthwaite's chapter on body posture. Domestic hygiene covers very adequately the institution and maintenance of the physical surroundings necessitated by our community existence. Dr. Wiley is represented by a chapter on Food Adulteration and Deterioration, which includes simple methods of caring for foods and detecting changes due to adulteration and deterioration. A chapter entitled Appendix concerns itself with pulse, temperature, respiration, baths of all kinds, massage, emergency treatment in cases of poisoning and other accidents. It is an admirable book for nurses, teachers, sociological workers, etc., and also is a decidedly more reliable household vade mecum than the legion of so-called "doctor's books" that flaunt their misinformation from the book shelves of the laity. And, again, for those of us who are not gifted with the ability of a Woods Hutchinson to impart to the laity complex medical information in a "words-of-one-syllable" style, this book may often be of great assistance to explain or answer the thousand and one questions that the patient is capable of hurling at his omniscient medical attendant. G. H. T.

DR. J. S. POTTS.

Died February 9, 1913.

The following, in appreciation of Dr. Potts, has been contributed by "a friend":

"One by one we pass over the bar, leaving our footsteps upon the sands of time. When we leave such footprints behind us as our old friend and physician, Dr. J. S. Potts, has left, we can depart in peace. His hands, his purse, his skill, were always at the service of the needv. He had a kindly welcome for the stranger, a cheering word for the unhappy, and to one and all a helpful hand. A rarely generous man to his friends—and not only to his friends, but to the community in which he

lived—he was always ready to give of his time and money for the public good.

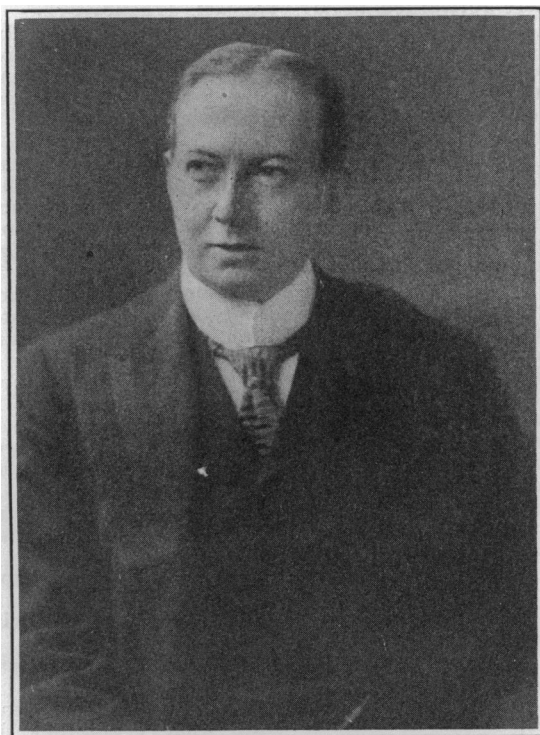
"He was one of the originators of the board of trade in San Jose; also one of the first to see the benefit a first-class hotel would be to this community and it was his money and energy that was so helpful in establishing Hotel Vendome in San Jose. As president of the Hotel Vendome company, he was assiduous in making the new venture a success.

"In 1880 he visited Europe, spending much time in the study of his profession in the best hospitals of Edinburgh, London, Dublin, Paris, Berlin and Vienna. Returning to San Jose as his chosen home, he was for many years the leading physician here.

"There are many hearts in San Jose to mourn the loss of so good a friend."—San Jose Mercury.

AN APPRECIATION.

We have known him and truly we have loved him; now we reverence his memory. The medical profession of the world honors him for his unusual and brilliant understanding of the wonder-workings of the heart in health and in disease. We are proud of this. We honor him for his subtle understanding of humanity; his spending of



Dr. George Alexander Gibson.

strength for our good; his consideration; his courteous urbanity; his deep devotion to all the virtues of our profession; his open sincerity, and for his stainless reputation.

His charity and his learning have brought him "such strong renown as time will ne'er decay."

WILLIAM WATT KERR,
CHARLES MINER COOPER,
JAMES EAVES,
THOMAS ADDIS,
J. WILSON SHIELS.

NEWS NOTES FROM NEWSPAPERS.

Fresno is to have another hospital to be built by Dr. Sample.

Auburn is to have a sanitarium to be built by Mrs. Nellie Firth.

At Grass Valley, trichinosis has made its appearance in an Italian family.

Chico had a number of cases of smallpox during the early part of February.

Dr. W. E. Coppedge has been appointed county health officer of Modoc county.

Monrovia has appointed Dr. A. Hostetter health officer to succeed Dr. C. D. Gaylord.

Dr. R. B. Knight, of Stockton, has been appointed on the lunacy board to succeed Dr. J. P. Hull.

At San Jose, Dr. George H. Evans gave an address on the subject of tuberculosis on February 1.

Bakersfield was treated to a lecture on foods and poisons by Dr. Wm. Ophuls in the latter part of January.

The German hospital, San Francisco, has been sued for \$25,000 because of the death of a boy from rabies.

Sonoma county hospital admitted 355 patients during the past year and cared for them at a cost of \$31,777.96.

Dr. George W. Burk of Sisson was acquitted of the charge of violating the quarantine regulations after a jury trial.

At San Jose, Dr. D. R. Wilson has been appointed superintendent of the county hospital, to succeed Dr. Jonas Clark.

Another cure for cancer has been discovered. This time it has St. Ignatius College, San Francisco, as its habitat.

Oakland supervisors—or rather, Alameda county supervisors—have allotted one million dollars for the new county infirmary.

The new building of the Pomona Valley Hospital Association was recently started and the cornerstone was laid February 7.

Dr. M. R. Glover, of the Public Health Service, has gone to Tulare county to investigate the reported epidemic of trachoma.

Pasadena has a school dental clinic for caring for the teeth of its poor children that has proved to be of the greatest benefit.

In Colorado the legislature would compel any surgeon who takes out an appendix to prove that it is diseased or suffer a penalty.

Dr. Samuel Weiss was sentenced to four months in jail and a fine of \$100 for sending an indecent letter to an actress at a cheap theatre.

O. C. Joslen tried for two years or more to compel the Board of Medical Examiners to restore his license, but finally the court threw it out.

Dr. Minerva Goodman, medical inspector in the Stockton schools, reports that about 90 per cent. of the pupils have teeth that need attention.

Dr. W. K. Sanborn had to have his leg amputated as a result of an injury received while playing football, according to the Oakland Tribune.

Dr. E. G. Goodrich, not a member of the State Society, was the victim of a \$3,000 verdict in a suit against him for alleged malpractice, January 31.

Berkeley's city auditor was one of the smallpox victims and his office was closed and vaccinated; nearly all the city officials were also vaccinated.

San Diego County Medical Society had its annual dinner on January 16th and the older resident physicians recited their hard luck stories of early days.

Fresno county has appointed Dr. Guy Manson health officer, to take the place of Dr. T. N. Sample, resigned, who has held the office for eight years.

Dr. R. B. Dempsey delivered a lecture on tuberculosis at Vallejo, under the auspices of the brotherhood of the Presbyterian church, on February 4.

The Fresno county hospital is to adopt some of the suggestions made by the County Medical So-